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of Hongkong and the
Far East.
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No. 17,045.

號二月正年八十壹百九千壹英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 1918.

日十次歲年七國民華中

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ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER-MAKERS, BRASS and IRON FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have over thirty years' experience. We own two slipways and can accommodate any boat of 200 feet long.

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WONG YEE WA, Manager.
No. 10, April 1, 1918.

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In Casks of 875 lbs. net.
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GENERAL MANAGERS.

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PEAK HOTEL.
ADMIRABLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP.
Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

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THE WAR. TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuters Service to the China Mail)

ENEMY TRY TO RETAKE JERUSALEM.
A SERIOUS DEFEAT OF THE ENEMY.
SUBSTANTIAL BRITISH ADVANCE.

London, Dec. 31.
An official despatch from Palestine states:—
We occupied Beilun, the ancient name of which is Bethel-el-Balun, situated a mile to the north of Birah; Kheibur, to the west of El-Balun; and Janiah and Raskerker which are six and seven miles respectively north-west of Birah.

The operations on Friday and Saturday led to a serious defeat of the enemy. The latter, on Thursday, with German assistance, determinedly attempted to retake Jerusalem, and pressed his attacks with vigour, continuing them from two in the morning of Thursday, for 28 hours.

General Allenby immediately counter-attacked the Turkish west flank and progressed for two-and-a-half miles, in very difficult country.

Seeing, on Friday, the Turkish attack was spent, we made a general counter-attack on the Turkish line, advancing to the north and those on their left advancing to the east, and drove back the enemy.

We gained seven miles of ground, securing to the north-west four strong positions between the enemy and Jerusalem, instead of one.

The Turkish casualties were very heavy. The killed alone are estimated at 1,000 and 600 prisoners have been counted. Twenty machine guns were also captured.

LATER.
An official despatch from Palestine states:—
We have further advanced our line to the north of Jerusalem.

Between December 27 and 29 we took 750 prisoners and 1,008 enemy dead have been counted.

IMPORTANT REPORT.
ATTACK BY ENEMY.

London, Dec. 31.
4.35 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
As the result of successful counter-attacks we regained the more important parts of the positions at Welsh Ridge taking some prisoners and machine guns.

The enemy retains a portion of the front trench near La Vacquerie, to the south of Maroing.

We advanced our line, last night, a short distance astride the Ypres-Staden railway.

11.45 p.m.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
The enemy, this morning, renewed his attacks on Welsh Ridge on a 1,200-yard front.

His troops, on the southern portion of the attack, temporarily, with the assistance of liquid fire, entered a trench, but our counter-attack drove him out.

The attack on the remainder of the front was broken up by our fire and completely repulsed.

THE ITALIAN FRONT.
A SUCCESSFUL FRENCH ATTACK.

London, Dec. 31.

An Italian official message states:—
After intense artillery preparation on the Monte Tomba sector, the French stormed the positions between Ombra-di-Monte Fenera and Marzina.

They overcame a stubborn resistance and established themselves firmly, taking 44 officers and 1,884 men prisoners and capturing 60 machine-guns, seven cannon and other material.

The British and Italian batteries and sixteen co-artillery.

THE ATTACK MADE IN A HAZE.

London, Dec. 31.

Reuter's Correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, says that when the Germans attacked between La Vacquerie and Maroing, it was so hazy with frost that it was difficult to see the enemy waves; till they were close to the trenches.

There was bitter hand-to-hand fighting on the right, while on the left, to prompt was our counter-attack that the enemy only retained a small portion of his gains.

During the course of the day our bombers drove out the enemy from several trenches and, inflicting considerable casualties, the fighting has been continuous since.

The communications were bad, owing to the snow which is several feet deep in places.

There is no reason to believe that the affair was intended to be more than a local attack with the object of regaining Welsh Ridge, which is part of the Hindenburg line, and gives good observation and excellent habitability.

GERMAN REPORT.

London, Dec. 31.

A German official message states:—
There was violent artillery activity and mine-throwing due to the Monte Tomba ridge.

The French attacked and penetrated parts of the position.

LATER.
A German official message states:—
There was violent artillery activity in the Monte Tomba region.

LEVELLY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

London, Dec. 31.

A French communiqué states:—
There was lively artillery activity in Champagne in the region of the heights, on the right bank of the Meuse and on the sector of the Hindenburg line.

AUSTRIAN REPORT.

London, Dec. 31.

An Austrian official message states:—
Counter-measures at Monte Tomba are being pursued.

ENEMY AGAIN BOMBS PADUA.

London, Dec. 31.

The enemy last night for the first time bombed Padua.

Several shells were dropped and caused considerable damage to the city.

The Austrian authorities are taking measures to protect the city.

NINE SWEDISH AND NORWEGIAN STEAMER TURPELLO.

London, Dec. 31.

The Admiralty announced that nine Swedish and Norwegian steamers were being guarded.

The Commodore's report states:—
The Swedish and Norwegian steamers were being guarded.

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.
TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAY

7.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS

8.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. 9.30 p.m. to 11.00 p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of an hour.

SUNDAYS

8.00 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.00 noon to 1.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
8.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
8.30 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAY

Extra Car at 12 midnight.

SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the Company's Office, 45, Queen's Road Central.

Season and special tickets available for all cars, including full touring in the slow coaches in the Company's time tables, but not for special cars, can be obtained on application at the Company's Office.

No "Return" tickets will be issued, and no special fare has been made in Peak Road to any other or comparative under Government Road.

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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on

MONDAY,

the 7th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF

CHINESE PORCELAINS,

KAKEMONOS, CURIOS, &c., &c.,

Comprising:-

A Large variety of 8-coloured and 3-coloured Vases and Plates, Blue and White Vases and Figures, etc., Old Bronzes, including Incense Burners of the Sung and Ming Dynasties, Pekinese Cloisonne, (Amber and Jadestone), Carved Bamboo Ware, Old Soochow Lacquer Boxes, Kakemonos and Wall Hangings, Jadestone and Ivory Carvings, etc., etc.

The great portion of the above stock has recently arrived from the North and includes pieces from the Ming, Kaiting, Yungching, Kienlung, Kaitching, and T'ungwong Periods.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).

On view from Friday, at 2 p.m.

Terms:-Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 3439

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on

WEDNESDAY

the 9th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD

FURNITURE, BRASS AND TWIN

BEDSTEADS, CURTAINS, CARPETS,

PICTURES, &c., AND A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF USEFUL HOUSEHOLD

GOODS.

As follows:-

Upholstered Suites, Arm-chairs and Chesterfield Sofas, Card Tables, etc., Bed-room Furniture, comprising Double and Single Brass and Brass-mounted Bedsteads, and Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggonets, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, etc., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, etc., Bath Room Utensils, Moll-top Decks and Writing Tables, Smudgy Electro-Plated Ware.

Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screen, Blackwood Furniture, including Large 4-Fold Blackwood Screen with 6-Coloured Panels, Side Tables, etc., Engravings, Pictures, etc., etc., Tennis Rackets and Net, Iron Safe, &c.

A few lots Turkish Bath Sheets, Towels, Single and Double Bed Sheets, Bed Quilts, &c.

A number of lots of

DAMASQUE JEWELLERY,

Also

Carpets, Brass Fenders, a few lots

Fire Bricks, &c.

Two HANONS.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue).

Terms:-Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 3440

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MOTOR YACHT

Length 43 feet
Beam 12 feet 4 inches
Draft 5 feet

Lavatory, Pantry, &c.,

12 and 8 H.P. Motors. Complete

with sails and accessories.

Further Particulars from the Under-

signed.

Terms:-as usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

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Hongkong, Dec. 31, 1917. 3441

AUCTIONS.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED),

on

THURSDAY,

the 3rd January, 1918, at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street.

A QUANTITY OF

VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD

FURNITURE,

&c., &c.

Comprising:-

Blackwood Furniture, Large Plain

Sideboard, Cabinets suitable for glass

or silver, Chairs, Overmantels, &c.

White Enamelled Twin Bedsteads,

Wardrobes, Washstands, Chests of

Drawers, &c., Dinner Service and

Crockery Ware, Pantry and Kitchen

Utensils, including Large American Ice

Chest, and Two White Enamelled Baths.

The above Furniture, &c., has been

removed to the Sales Rooms for con-

venience of Sale.

Particulars from Catalogue.

Terms:-as usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Dec. 24, 1917. 3419

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Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1917. 3429

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of all kinds, especially for shipbuilding and engineering works. Largest and best assorted stock in the Colony.

SINGON & CO.

(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1880).

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PEDDER STREET,

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Hongkong, March 20, 1914

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CONTROLLED PRICES.

WHAT LORD RHONDDA HAS

ACHIEVED.

Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., who is the Labour member of the War Cabinet, has issued a report on the steps taken to meet the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Industrial Unrest, so far as they relate to the control of essential foodstuffs. In his summary last July of the reports of the eight commissions Mr. Barnes said that all these put in the fore-front as the leading cause of unrest the facts that the cost of living increased disproportionately to the advance in wages and that the distribution of food supplies was unequal. The consequent recommendation was "an immediate reduction in price, the increased price of food being borne to some extent by the Government, and a better system of distribution is required."

Mr. Barnes shows what progress has been made in carrying out this recommendation. When he reports that prices of English cheese are "adjusted" he means that they are being increased. He says:-

Bread.-The price of the 4lb. loaf for cash over the counter is 9d. and of the 2lb. loaf 4d. In some districts these loaves are being sold for less. A quarter of four costs 8d. This means a reduction of 20 to 25 per cent. on the prices previously charged. It will cost the Exchequer at least £40,000,000, and possibly more.

Meat.-The prices to be paid for live cattle have been fixed on a descending scale so as to show an ultimate reduction of 20 to 25 per cent. Butchers' profits are limited to 2 1/2d. per pound, or 20 per cent. on their fortnightly turnover, whichever is less. These measures should ultimately secure an average reduction in the retail price of meat equivalent to the reduction in the purchase price of cattle. As compared with last July, the wholesale price of British beef has fallen 17 per cent. and the wholesale price of mutton 19 per cent. This fall is already reflected in retail prices, but some time must elapse before its influence can be fully ascertained.

Potatoes.-As a result of the Prime Minister's guarantee to growers of £0 a ton, the acreage under potatoes has been considerably increased and there is an abundant crop. The retail price is controlled, and will, as a rule, be about 1d. per pound. It may be more in some districts where transport charges are large and less in others where they are small.

Sugar.-Complaints have centered on distribution rather than prices, and the new scheme of sugar distribution is designed to secure that such supplies as are available shall be distributed without suspicion of favour. It safeguards the position of the resident householder whether he be rich or poor. The retail price, though not fixed by statutory order, is controlled by the Sugar Commission in such a way as to leave a reasonable margin only to all dealers concerned.

Milk.-It has been necessary to sanction an increase in the price of milk in accordance with a pledge given by the Government last spring, with a view to securing an adequate supply during the winter. Prices are, however, fixed at all stages. Further, local food control committees are empowered to make their own arrangements for distribution, and the increased cost of production will not be allowed to "infect" the supply at reasonable prices to young children and invalids.

Tea.-The present retail prices of tea falling under the "control" scheme range from 2s. 4d. to 3s. per pound. A certain amount of tea is not under control. Arrangements are being made to purchase, on behalf of the Government, the whole supplies needed for England, and so to extend control over all tea. The tea so purchased will be taken home in requisitioned ships at appreciably reduced rates of freight, and there will be a substantial reduction in retail prices. A temporary shortage of tea is probably inevitable, but adequate supplies will be forthcoming later.

Cheese.-Imported American and Canadian cheese of good quality is sold retail at the fixed price of 1s. 4d. per pound. The prices of English cheese are being adjusted for the purpose of encouraging farmers to make more.

Butter.-Importation is being taken over by the Government. Prices of profits are fixed provisionally at all stages. Bacon, Hams, and Lard.-The import of these articles has been, or is being, taken over by the Government, and prices will be fixed at all stages as soon as possible. Here again, owing to world shortage and to increased army demands, a temporary shortage of supplies is probably inevitable.

Breeding and Mating.-In view of the suggestion that industrial unrest has been

aggravated in certain districts by shortage of beer, Lord Rhondda has advised the War Cabinet to extend the increased barter of 80s. per cent. permitted during the summer months to the ensuing quarter, and the Cabinet have assented to this proposal. Provision will be made to secure that only beer of an adequate gravity is designated as Government ale, and to fix prices for Government ale and beer of lower gravities sold in a public bar.

In regard to the above report, one may point out that bread alone shows a reduction of price at the expense of the National Exchequer. Butchers' meat is cheaper, and will become cheaper still, but bacon and milk and cheese (except the American and Canadian cheese bought by the Government) are dearer, and will soon be dearer still. The Food Controller may, however, claim that he has put a limit to the effects of short supplies of these commodities. Potatoes are much cheaper than at the end of last season, but the price of 4s. per ton guaranteed to the grower keeps them at an artificially high value.

Some articles are not as cheap as they would appear from the official quotations. This remark applies to butter, in which Mr. Barnes shows a noticeable reticence, and to tea. Thirty per cent. of the tea supply ought to be retained at 2s. 4d., but for reasons which may be gone into another time there is not, as a matter of fact, that proportion of the cheapest tea in the shops. Again, the tea order permits of the 2s. 8d. tea being sold at 3s. and the 3s. tea at 3s. 4d. under certain circumstances, and those circumstances are found to apply virtually everywhere outside London. The test of control is not an order, but the supply and price of the controlled articles in the shops.

SHRAPNEL-PROOF COATS FOR SOLDIERS.

MODERN FORMS OF MEDIEVAL ARMOUR.

Some interesting details of the most recent protective invention for soldiers were given by Dr. C. W. Saleeby in a lecture at the Royal Institute of Public Health. Many of Dr. Saleeby's suggestions as to the shape, and so on, of the steel helmet now worn by our army were adopted by the Government, and besides describing the latest improvements in the helmet, Dr. Saleeby gave the first account of a new shrapnel-proof jacket, which he thinks meets all the requirements for body armour.

The helmet now in use was modelled on the one adopted by the French in 1915, with important improvements in the kind of steel used. It is manganese steel, extremely hard, tough, and unsplinterable, with a low pitch of curvature in the crown for the purpose of deflecting bullets. The weight is properly distributed round the head, and the lining is padded with india-rubber to kill the force of a blow. Dr. Saleeby placed a soldier's helmet on his head and struck himself a violent blow with a heavy sash of steel without having to pause for a second in his lecture.

The most recent improvement of the helmet is the chain visor, of which hundreds of thousands are now in use in France. This is a piece of steel chain mail, which falls over the eyes like a veil as far as the bridge of the nose, and is tied on behind. Its purpose is to guard the eyes from fragments of sand, rock, or metal splinters striking from below; which are the cause of nine out of ten cases of blindness in the army. In the daytime the soldier can see perfectly well through the visor, and if necessary half of it can be put aside so as to uncover one eye. The visor does not seem to be very popular with the soldiers at present, as the chain mail tends to cause abrasions of the nose. The men also think that it interferes with seeing in bayonet fighting, and they have a prejudice against it because "it makes them look like guys."

It is said that at the Battle of Arras men wearing a visor went into action with the helmet turned front to back, and it is probable that some loss of sight is the consequence.

Dr. Saleeby did not overlook the military prejudice against the adoption of anything that suggested cowardice, but he thought that the success of the helmet was now converting our soldiers to the common-sense view about armour.

Discussing various forms of protective armour for the front, Dr. Saleeby said that at present the problem of protecting the body against machine-gun and rifle bullets appeared to be insoluble, but the problem of finding an efficient protection against shrapnel and revolver bullets was, in his opinion, solved by the shrapnel-proof jacket, which he exhibited and described. It has been produced, he explained, by the experts at the Ministry of Munitions, and is at present in the experimental stage.

THE COLOUR OF WAR.

PAGEANTRY OUSTED BY KING

CAMOUFLAGE.

John Blunt writes in the "Daily Express": The days are gone when poets used to write about the glory and pageantry of war. Glory there certainly is, but the pageantry of war is dead. It died, by degrees, starting from the time when our soldiers gave up the old red serge tunics in which they used to go to war. Its death was brought nearer when our ships of war gave up their black hulls, with white deck-work and yellow funnels, and by the time the South African war was over it was dying fast. The early days of this world-war killed it outright.

Pageantry of war was, after all, nothing but colour. Horrors were smothered in the gaily-coloured uniforms, the flashing sabres, and the tossing manes of cavalry chargers; the blast from the gittering war trumpets drowned the crying of the wounded and the groans of the dying. War in the old times was as much a pageant of colour as any Eastern tale, dramatized and staged by Oscar Wilde or the late Sir Herbert Tree. In those days, when knights went out to battle the one with the other, fighting as gentlemen fought, the scarlet of their tunics, the gold of their surcoats, there was nothing hideous about war. There were no fearsome-looking men wearing gas masks, cruel and monstrous-looking, there were no flame-throwers spitting fire and flog-thatched winds to bar their way. No giant gas clouded out about or belched out black smoke to darken the landscape, no flying men dropped explosives on them from the sky. They fought man to man, and the strongest arm and the stoutest heart won the day. A man might wear in those times what he fancied, a shield of crimson and helmet plumes of purple, puce trappings to his charger, and a jewelled bill to his sword, and no one would say him nay. There was no need for concealment. Men who went out to fight went to fight or to be found. Camouflage, the only colour which war has taken for her use to-day, was unheard of.

MUD AND KHAKI.

Can one imagine the Black Prince going to do battle with the knights of Crecy in a helmet dabbled with mud, khaki-dyed plumes, a breastplate bespattered with blue and red and green, and a surcoat of brown over which he was sacking? It would be ridiculous. So in this war should we think it absurd for our Tommies (who, nevertheless, bear the spirit of that Black Prince) under their Primice jackets to wear the gay colours in which the knights of old went out to battle.

To-day the maxim is, "Discover your enemy and keep yourself under cover," and so the colours have gone, the cavalry bands play no more out of England, the drums of war exist only in the roarings and crashes and rumblings which we in England hear as they come over the sea. The maxim is, "Discover your enemy and keep yourself under cover," and so the colours have gone, the cavalry bands play no more out of England, the drums of war exist only in the roarings and crashes and rumblings which we in England hear as they come over the sea. The maxim is, "Discover your enemy and keep yourself under cover," and so the colours have gone, the cavalry bands play no more out of England, the drums of war exist only in the roarings and crashes and rumblings which we in England hear as they come over the sea.

The Navy, too, is colourless, though it may be more picturesque than our armies before. The black, gliding hull of a destroyer, with a bonnet on her bow, make a pretty picture, the grey shape of a dreadnought looming up in the North Sea mists, the little white ribbon on the surface of the water which the fishermen mending our mine-sweepers will tell you betrays the submarine, all are fine sights for eyes to see, but there is no colour in them.

Nelson and the American Farragut fought their ships in the days when war was a thing of outward beauty as well as of horror, but in dull khaki fights in the Atlantic, where Napoleon fought in white like breaches with cockade in his hat.

A NEW LEGAL POINT FOR AUSTRIA.

The brothers Caproni, inventors of the Italian aeroplanes which have lately been used by the Austrians, have been ordered to pay a fine of 100,000 lire for having used their aeroplanes to bombard the Austrian ships at Pola. This is a piece of steel chain mail, which falls over the eyes like a veil as far as the bridge of the nose, and is tied on behind. Its purpose is to guard the eyes from fragments of sand, rock, or metal splinters striking from below; which are the cause of nine out of ten cases of blindness in the army. In the daytime the soldier can see perfectly well through the visor, and if necessary half of it can be put aside so as to uncover one eye. The visor does not seem to be very popular with the soldiers at present, as the chain mail tends to cause abrasions of the nose. The men also think that it interferes with seeing in bayonet fighting, and they have a prejudice against it because "it makes them look like guys."

It is said that at the Battle of Arras men wearing a visor went into action with the helmet turned front to back, and it is probable that some loss of sight is the consequence.

Dr. Saleeby did not overlook the military prejudice against the adoption of anything that suggested cowardice, but he thought that the success of the helmet was now converting our soldiers to the common-sense view about armour.

Discussing various forms of protective armour for the front, Dr. Saleeby said that at present the problem of protecting the body against machine-gun and rifle bullets appeared to be insoluble, but the problem of finding an efficient protection against shrapnel and revolver bullets was, in his opinion, solved by the shrapnel-proof jacket, which he exhibited and described. It has been produced, he explained, by the experts at the Ministry of Munitions, and is at present in the experimental stage.

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INTIMATIONS



JOHNNIE WALKER—"Still going strong," that's the slogan. It's been mine since 1820.

JOHNNIE WALKER "White Label," 6 years old.
JOHNNIE WALKER "Red Label," 10 years old.
JOHNNIE WALKER "Black Label," 12 years old.
Guaranteed same quality throughout the world.

Agents General, CALBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.

JOHN WALKER & SONS, LTD., SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND.

1814 ESTABLISHED 100 YEARS 1914

JOHN HADDON AND CO.

Export and Import Agents

For ONE HUNDRED YEARS in the CITY OF LONDON we have acted as Buying and Selling Agents for Traders, Storekeepers, Growers of Colonial Produce. Are you requiring the services of London Agents to promote your interests? We shall be pleased to enter into correspondence with a view to arranging terms to mutual advantage.

BANK CREDITS ARRANGED.
CASH ADVANCED AGAINST SHIPMENTS.

JOHN HADDON AND CO.

Colonial Merchants and Produce Agents,

SALISBURY SQUARE, LONDON

TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

BESSARABIA A MOLDAVIAN REPUBLIC.

London, Dec. 31. The Times Petrograd Correspondent states that Bessarabia has proclaimed itself a Moldavian Republic.

COURLAND FOR GERMANY.

London, Dec. 31. The Daily Chronicle's Haparanda Correspondent states that the newspaper Den, of Petrograd, says the Parliament of Courland, on December 17, pronounced in favour of the early cession of Courland to Germany.

COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN FINLAND AND GERMANY OPENED.

London, Dec. 31. It is reported that communications have been opened between Finland and Germany.

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

Petrograd, Dec. 31. The Constituent Assembly has issued a manifesto urging the people to refrain from participation in processions, repudiating the Maximilianist authority and proclaiming the supremacy of the Constituent Assembly.

Petrograd, Dec. 30. Soldiers raided the premises of the Union of Defence and the Constituent Assembly, arresting all present.

ARRESTED BANK DIRECTORS RELEASED ON BAIL.

Petrograd, Dec. 30. The Bank directors, who had been arrested on Christmas Day, were released on bail of a million roubles each, with the exception of M. Vysnegradsky.

A WEEK'S FIGHTING AT IRKUTSK.

Petrograd, Dec. 30. Fighting at Irkutsk has lasted for a week, between the regulars, the Red Guards, the Cossacks and the Military Cadets.

It is reported that whole quarters of the town have been devastated.

A BRITISH PRONOUNCEMENT IN FAVOUR OF BOLSHIEVICS.

London, Dec. 31. The Daily News makes the first pronouncement of any English newspaper in favour of the Bolshievics.

The paper published a telegram from its special correspondent, Mr. Stafford Ransome, who has returned to Petrograd after an absence of three months, in which he describes the City as being more orderly than it had been for months before the Bolshievik control. Mr. Ransome says the Bolshievik Government is extremely efficient, energetic and decisive, and he denies that it is refusing to allow the opening of the Constituent Assembly, the real reason for the delay being that only 391 out of 800 delegates have been elected.

The Correspondent says that he has had an interview with M. Trotsky, who is of the opinion that the war will be decided by social, not military, pressure. He said that every Government in Europe is feeling the pressure of Democracy, but the German Government is wiser than most; hence it has abandoned its grandiose plans of conquest.

The Correspondent adds that all the Petrograd newspapers, however they differ regarding the Brezilevsk proposals, are of the opinion that the Allies are now bound to consider them seriously, and the next word belongs to them.

Mr. Stafford Ransome says that unless the Allies move in the matter of the Brezilevsk proposals it would seem possible that the Germans will ask the Russians to help them in enforcing their peace terms on the Allies. The only chance of defeating German designs of enslaving Russia is for the Allies to put forward proposals.

The Times denounces the Bolshevik suggestion of irresponsible quartering of the Allies on the Russian people, and says that the Allies will not be asked to do so.

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THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

SECOND AUSTRO-GERMAN DELEGATION ARRIVES.

Petrograd, Dec. 30. The second Austro-German Delegation has arrived and comprises representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, War, Navy, Finance and also Red Cross and Economic experts.

Some French residents at one hotel were obliged to evacuate their rooms to accommodate the Austrians and Germans, while some Britishers left the hotel as a protest against the hotel lodging enemy delegates.

GERMAN HOPES OF TERRITORIAL EXTENSION.

London, Dec. 31. The newspapers are silent with regard to Berlin's statement of the Brezilevsk proposals.

The Daily Chronicle also makes the statement the subject of an editorial article and says the statement indicates that the Germans hope to retain possession of Poland, Lithuania, Courland, portions of Estonia and Livonia, where they have already induced a faked Assembly to declare for the separation from Russia. The paper adds that the cynicism of these proposals is too much even for the Bolshievics who are now temporarily lagging over their form but they are not likely to alter their substance.

THE ALLIES AND THE GERMAN PEACE TERMS.

IMPOSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN A NON POSSUMUS.

London, Dec. 31.

The Daily Chronicle Petrograd Correspondent states that it is impossible longer to observe a non possumus attitude to the German peace terms. It would be a short-sighted policy for the Allies to allow Russia to conclude a humiliating separate peace. The Bolshievics are determined to make the Constituent Assembly a mere shadow of the Soviets, avowing their intention of expelling from the Constituent Assembly the Cadets and the moderate Socialists, whom they describe as Hunkeys; hence the moderate Russians are anxiously looking to the Allies somehow to help Russia to secure a decent peace.

ALLIES WILL PROBABLY REPLY.

London, Dec. 31.

The Daily News states that Mr. Lloyd George, in receiving a deputation of the Labourites and Trade Union Conference, on Friday, gave them to understand that some reply would probably be forthcoming from the Allies to the German peace offer to Russia.

AN EX-PREMIER MURDERED.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

The ex-Premier M. Goremykine, his wife and son-in-law and General Ovchinnikov have been murdered at Sochi in the Caucasus.

COSSACK HETMAN AND HIS STAFF MURDERED.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

General Kharuloff, who is the Hetman of the Terek Cossacks, and his brother and his whole staff of officers and men have been murdered by soldiers from the Caucasian Front.

FRENCHMEN MURDERED BY RED GUARDS AT IRKUTSK.

Petrograd, Dec. 31.

The Red Guards, during the course of fighting at Irkutsk, murdered the French Consular Agent and two other Frenchmen.

THE TOWN IS ON FIRE AND THE POPULATION IS STARVING.

London, Dec. 31.

The town is on fire and the population is starving.

NATIONALISATION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Petrograd, Dec. 31.

The Peoples' Commissioners are preparing a decree for the nationalisation of Insurance Companies.

CELEBRATING THE PEACE.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

Manifist processions in celebration of peace started all over the morning and evening in the City. Many and many a patriotic song was sung.

MARTIAL LAW HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

Martial law has been proclaimed and several officers have been shot.

THE NEW YEAR HONOURS.

London, Dec. 31.

The New Year honours include the following:-

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BARONS.

Mr. Almeric Paget, J.P., Member for Cambridge.

Sir Frederick Cavley, J.P., Liberal Member for Prestwich.

Sir John Brownlee, Liberal Conservative Member for Mid Armagh.

Sir James Thomas Woodhouse, J.P., Liberal Member for Huddersfield.

KNIGHTHOODS.

Major William Northrop McMillan, F.R.G.S., C.M.Z.S., the East African explorer.

Mr. Bartle Henry Temple Frey, K.C., the Chief Justice of Gibraltar.

PRIVATE COUNSELLORS.

Lord Hugh Cecil, Unionist Member for Oxford University.

Mr. T. Richards, Labour Member for Monmouth.

And four others.

BARONETS.

The Rt. Hon. Ellis J. Griffith, K.C., Liberal Member for Anglesey.

Sir George Allardice Riddell, the newspaper proprietor.

The Rt. Hon. Sir F. E. Smith, the Attorney-General.

Lieut. Col. James Craig, Unionist Member for Co. Down, East.

And sixteen others.

KNIGHTS.

Mr. Robert Bruce, journalist.

Mr. Emsley Carr, journalist.

Mr. John Galsworthy, novelist.

Mr. Antony Hop, novelist.

Mr. Leslie Ward, portrait painter.

Mr. John Lavery, A.R.A., artist.

Mr. E. L. Lutyens, A.R.A., artist.

Mr. Sydney Low, M.A., historian.

Mr. John Scott Keltie, F.R.G.S., geographer.

And forty-three others.

MILITARY HONOURS.

R.C.B.

Surgeon-General Sir David Bruce, O.B.

Brigadier E. Northey is promoted to Major-General.

SOCIALISTS AND PEACE.

Stockholm, Jan. 1.

Mr. Arthur Henderson has telegraphed to Mr. Hynman, Secretary of the Dutch-Scandinavian Committee which organised the Stockholm Conference, asking him to communicate to the Soviet at Petrograd the strong desire of British Labour that Russia shall not conclude a separate peace.

ANOTHER CONGRESS WANTED.

Stockholm, Jan. 1.

Mr. Hynman replied urging the convocation of a Socialist Congress to prepare for a general as opposed to a separate peace.

M. CLEMENCEAU AND THE FRENCH SOCIALISTS.

Paris, Jan. 1.

M. Clemenceau, the French Premier, received a deputation of Socialists, including M. Albert Thomas (ex-Minister of Munitions), which asked for passports for Petrograd with a view to preventing a separate peace.

M. CLEMENCEAU REPLIED THAT THE SITUATION AT PETROGRAD WAS TOO DANGEROUS.

M. Clemenceau replied that the situation at Petrograd was too dangerous to permit of a separate peace. He refused passports as a grant them might induce a belief that the Government was participating in the peace negotiations, which was not the case. He said that the Government was now in a position to make a serious proposal to the enemy.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE AT GUATEMALA.

Washington, Dec. 31.

There was another earthquake on Saturday, virtually destroying Guatemala City.

A REPORT ISSUED BY THE NAVY DEPARTMENT STATES THAT EVERYTHING IS IN RUINS AND THAT 125,000 PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS.

Washington, Dec. 31.

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NAVAL UNITS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO RENDER ASSISTANCE.

Washington, Dec. 31.

There are 10,000 dead and 10,000 wounded.

MARTIAL LAW HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED.

Petrograd, Dec. 30.

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THE WAR IN THE NEW YEAR.

Paris, Dec. 31.

Lord Derby, the British Secretary of State for War, in a message to the House of Commons, says that he hopes the coming year will see the troops returning home, after the victory of right over might.

HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS.

Paris, Dec. 31.

Lord Robert Cecil, British Minister of Blockade, in a message, admits that the French and the British have a hard year before them, but, strengthened by America, they will hold out till victory. Let us hope that the war will end before the next New Year.

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NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM CHINA TO FRANCE.

Paris, Jan. 1.

The President of the Chinese Republic has sent a message to Mr. Poincaré on the occasion of the New Year, saying that he is deeply grateful for the help and support of the French people and expressing the firm conviction that the heroic efforts of the French troops will triumph in the struggle for the defence of right and justice.

THE PREMIER AND LABOUR.

London, Dec. 31.

The newspapers state that the interview between Mr. Lloyd George and the Labour Deputation, on Friday, was most cordial and has finally removed any misunderstanding that may have existed between the Premier and Labour.

MR. AMOS SAYS THAT THE LABOUR LEADERS, HAVING SECURED THE UNITY OF THE BRITISH WORKERS ON THE WAR AIMS, WILL NOW WORK TO SECURE THE UNITY OF AIMS AMONG THE LABOUR AND SOCIALIST PARTIES IN THE ALLIED COUNTRIES, WHICH IS AN INDISPENSIBLE PRELIMINARY TO PARTICIPATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WITH THE SOCIALIST DELEGATES OF ENEMY OR NEUTRAL COUNTRIES.

The Swedish Socialist leader, M. Branting, in a letter to the London Press, hopes that the Entente will give such an answer to Count Czernin that further discussion of honourable peace terms will be possible.

FIGHTING AT HARBIN.

Tokyo, Jan. 1.

A belated message from Peking states that 2,500 Russian troops in Harbin have surrendered to the Chinese soldiers, after the fighting on December 27.

RUSSIAN TROOPS SURRENDERED TO CHINESE.

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THE SHORTAGE OF COAL IN NEW YORK.

New York, Dec. 31.

The unprecedented cold has aggravated the shortage of coal. Thousands of people stormed the coal yards for a basketful.

COAL YARDS STORMED BY GREAT CROWDS.

New York, Dec. 31.

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AMERICAN WEEKLY WAR REVIEW.

Washington, Jan. 1.

Mr. Baker, Secretary of War, in his weekly statement, says the New Year finds the British dominant on the Flanders plain and the battle at Cambrai proves that the German defenses can be broken. Though full advantage has not been taken of the early successes, nevertheless the British in this battle inflicted the most serious disaster on the German army since the Battle of the Marne.

THE FRENCH HOLD THE KEY TO THE LEON AREA, THROUGH THE REPAIRS OF THE CHEMIN DE DAMES.

Washington, Jan. 1.

It is evident from the reported transfer of troops in Italy that the enemy is pursuing an opportunistic plan of campaign rather than following definite strategic operations.

STANDARD WARRIOR.

London, Dec. 31.

The Standard, in a special issue, says that the British have a hard year before them, but, strengthened by America, they will hold out till victory. Let us hope that the war will end before the next New Year.

BRITAIN'S REVENUE.

London, Dec. 31.

The British Treasury has announced that the revenue for the year 1917-18 will be £1,000,000,000.

ENEMY'S POSITION.

London, Dec. 31.

The enemy's position is becoming increasingly desperate. They are now in a position to make a serious proposal to the enemy.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, Dec. 31.

The enemy made powerful local attacks at dawn on a two-mile front against the Welsh Ridge on the spur southwest of Cambrai. We repulsed the attacks but the enemy effected a lodgment in small salients on our right northward of La Vesque, and on the left southward of Marcinelle.

POWERFUL ENEMY ATTACK.

London, Dec. 31.

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OUR COMBAT ATTACKS STOPPED THE ENEMY FROM A POSITION OF "CHOC" POSITION, YIELDING A NUMBER OF PRISONERS.

London, Dec. 31.

Our combat attacks stopped the enemy from a position of "choc" position, yielding a number of prisoners.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE'S MESSAGE TO THE ALLIES.

London, Jan. 1.

The Prime Minister, sent New Year messages to the President of the United States, Japan, Belgium, Greece and France in which he emphasises that the hopes of humanity centre in the triumph of the Allied cause. Mutual friendship and respect are becoming more and more the cement of the Alliance which is the guardian of Justice and the liberty of the world. He thanks individual armies and navies for the fortitude shown by them in the year now passed, and their readiness to continue the struggle until the world is rid of the domination of a military autocracy whose discredit and defeat are essential to lasting peace.

THE PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSES FULL CONFIDENCE IN THE VICTORY OF FREEDOM IN THE NEW YEAR.

London, Jan. 1.

He tells President Wilson: "We are relying on the great addition of strength of the young American army, and express to Signor Orlando his admiration of the successful Italian resistance and his confidence that Italy, ere long, will strike another mighty blow for the liberation of Italy."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

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RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

Amsterdam, Dec. 31.

At the Peace conference at Brezilevsk Germany proposed that the first two Articles of a preliminary Treaty should be as follows:

That Russia and Germany declare the state of war ended. Both nations are resolved to live together in future in peace and friendship. On the condition of complete reciprocity vis-a-vis her Allies, Germany is ready, as soon as peace is concluded with Russia and the Russian armies are demobilised, to evacuate her present positions and the occupied Russian territory, so far as no different inference may result from Article 2.

After the Russian Government, in accordance with its principles, has proclaimed for all the peoples of Russia the right of self-determination, including complete separation, it takes cognisance of decisions, as expressing the will of people, demanding full state independence and separation from Russia for Poland, Lithuania, Courland and portions of Latvia, and Livonia.

The Russian Government recognises that these manifestations must in the present circumstances be regarded as expressing the will of the people and is ready to draw conclusions therefrom.

As in these districts to which the foregoing stipulations apply the question of evacuation is not such as is provided for in Article 1, a Special Commission shall, in accordance with the Russian plan, arrange for a "ratification" by plebiscite on broad lines without any military pressure whatever of the already existing separation proclamations.

(Nothing is known in London regarding the proclamations mentioned above.)

The Russian Delegation then insisted upon the necessity of a definite assurance that the plebiscite would be free and that foreign troops would be completely absent, but agreed to the appointment of a Special Commission to arrange the plebiscite and fix a time for the evacuation.

Prising at the third sitting on December 27th, the Russian Delegation, Mr. Doff, expressed the opinion that the negotiations have begun well and allowed of the anticipation of a speedy end of the war.

The Delegates afterwards returned to their homes.

The negotiations will be resumed on January 4th.

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London, Jan. 1.

SPORTING.

CRICKET.

A two-days' match between Hongkong Residents and Bowdoin. Residents won Monday and Tuesday. Hongkong Residents winning by 175 runs.

The scores were:-

HONGKONG RESIDENTS.	
First Innings.	
T. E. Pearce, c. Murray, b. Fostonji	108
W. Dixon, l.b.w., b. Cobb	38
J. Stalker, c. Stapleton, b. Fostonji	11
C. Graham, c. McDonnell, b. Fostonji	13
C. W. Hamilton, l.b.w., b. McDonnell	29
C. Q. M. S. Reakes, b. McDonnell	26
Sig. Hack, b. Fostonji	20
J. Sutton, l.b.w., b. Cobb	8
Gr. Sharmun, c. Cobb	4
L. C. Adams, c. Cobb	33
D. E. Donnelly, not out	1
Extras	17
Total	280

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
*Cobb	20	3	88	4
Fostonji	20	3	73	3
Gr. Sharmun	10	4	29	2
L. McDonnell	8	4	48	2

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*Cobb	20	3	88	4
Fostonji	20	3	73	3
Gr. Sharmun	10	4	29	2
L. McDonnell	8	4	48	2

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Before deciding upon your next motorcycle see the three new 1918 model.

Indian Motorcycles.

2 1/2 h.p. Featherweight.
5 h.p. Little Twin.
7-9 h.p. Big Twin.

Free shipment due in Hongkong this month.

ALEX. ROSS & Co.,
Tr. 27. 4, Des Vaux Road.

HONGKONG MARKET PRICES.

Butcher Meat.

Beef Sirloin—Mal Lung Pa ... lb. 21

Prime Out ... lb. 21

Corned—Ham Ngau Yau ... lb. 20

Roast—Shiu ... lb. 20

Breast—Ngau Nam ... lb. 18

Scap—Toog Yau ... lb. 18

Steak—Ngau Yau Pa ... lb. 30

Steak Sirloin—Ngau Lan ... lb. 30

Sausages—No. 1 ... lb. 26

Bull's Head Brains—Ngau No. 1 ... lb. 45

Toogye, fresh—Ngau Li ... lb. 45

Toogye, corned—Ham Ngau Li ... lb. 40

Head—Nuan Tam ... lb. 13

Heart—Ngau Sam ... lb. 13

Hump—Salt—Ngau Kin ... lb. 18

Feet—Ngau Kwai ... lb. 9

Kidney—Ngau Yau ... lb. 12

Tail—Ngau Mai ... lb. 12

Liver—Ngau Kon ... lb. 12

Tripe (undressed)—Ngau To ... lb. 6

Calves' Head and Feet—Ngau Tai ... lb. 1.00

Mutton Chop—Young P. & K. ... lb. 25

Leg—Young P. & K. ... lb. 25

Shoulder—Young P. & K. ... lb. 25

Saddle—Young P. & K. ... lb. 16

Pig's Chindings—Chu Chong ... lb. 3

Brains—Chu No. 1 ... lb. 3

Fat—Chu Kuek ... lb. 15

Fry—Chu Chai ... lb. 20

Head—Chu Tai ... lb. 18

Heart—Chu Sam ... lb. 18

Kidney—Chu Yau ... lb. 10

Liver—Chu Kon ... lb. 30

Pork Chop—Chu P. & K. ... lb. 24

Leg—Chu P. & K. ... lb. 24

Loin—Chu Hau Yau ... lb. 21

Fat of Lamb—Chu Yau ... lb. 21

Sheep's Head and Feet—Young ... lb. 60

Tail—Young P. & K. ... lb. 60

Heart—Young P. & K. ... lb. 60

Kidney—Young P. & K. ... lb. 12

Liver—Young P. & K. ... lb. 12

Sucking Pig, to order—Chu Tai ... lb. 20

Suet, Beef—Shang Ngau Yau ... lb. 26

Mutton—Shang Ngau Yau ... lb. 26

Veal—Ngau Tai Yau ... lb. 20

Sausages—Ngau Tai Chong ... lb. 20

Lard—Chu Yau ... lb. 20

Fish.

Barbel—Ka Yu ... lb. 25

Bream—Pin Yu ... lb. 18

Canton Fresh Water Fish ... lb. 12

Carp—Li Yu ... lb. 22

Catfish—Chu Yu ... lb. 22

Codfish—Mun Yu ... lb. 16

Cray—Hui Yu ... lb. 18

Cuttle Fish—Mun Yu ... lb. 16

Dab—Shi Wang Yu ... lb. 10

Dace—Wong Mai Yu ... lb. 10

Dog Fish—Tie To Yu ... lb. 10

Eel, Conger—Hoi Ma Yu ... lb. 14

Fresh water—Tam Shui Yu ... lb. 18

Yellow—Wong Sin Yu ... lb. 24

Frog—Tie Kai Yu ... lb. 36

Garoupa—Shek Pan Yu ... lb. 44

Gudgeon—Pak Kap Yu ... lb. 17

Herring—Tie Pak Yu ... lb. 22

Halibut—Cheung Kwai Yu ... lb. 22

Lobster—Wong Yu Yu ... lb. 28

Loach—Wai Yu Yu ... lb. 28

Lobster—Lung Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Mackerel—Chi Yu Yu ... lb. 24

Monk Fish—Mung Yu Yu ... lb. 24

Mullet—Tie Yu Yu ... lb. 16

Oyster—Shang Yu Yu ... lb. 18

Parrot Fish—Kai Kung Yu Yu ... lb. 14

Pike—Tao Yu Yu ... lb. 18

Pike—Pai Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 18

Platfish—Pai Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 18

Pomfret—Hoi Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Pomfret—White—Pak Chong Yu Yu ... lb. 32

Prawn—Ming Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 34

River—Pai Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 15

Rock Fish—Shek Kan Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 14

Road—Chu Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 14

Shrimp—Me Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Shrimp—Shi Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 8

Shrimp—Po Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Shrimp—He Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Shrimp—Lap Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Shrimp—Tie Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 22

Shrimp—Wai Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 18

Shrimp—Tao Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 18

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FRUITS.

Almonds—Heng Yu ... lb. 35

Apples (California)—Kam Shan ... lb. 18

Bananas (Crisp)—Heng Yu ... lb. 6

Carambola—Young Yu ... lb. 11

Cocconuts—Y. Yu ... lb. 11

Lemons, China—Ling Mun ... lb. 6

Lemons, America—Kam Shan ... lb. 7

Lichens, Dried (small stone)—Lai Chi Koi ... lb. 23

Oranges (Canton)—Shan Shing Tin Chong ... lb. 10

Oranges (Canton)—Shan Shing Tin Chong ... lb. 10

Pears (Canton)—Shan Shing Tin Chong ... lb. 10

Persimmons—Large—Heng Yu ... lb. 12

Plantain—Tie Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 10

Pineapple, Siam—Tie Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 11

Walnuts—Hop Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 14

Grapes—Po Tai Yu Yu Yu Yu ... lb. 28